ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

BELLSOUTH

BellSouth

Suite 900 1133-21st Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-3351

ben.almond@bellsouth.com

Ben G. Almond Vice President-Federal Regulatory

202 463-4112 Fax 202 463-4198

July 17, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A325 Washington, DC 20554

Re:

Rule Changes For Upcoming C and F Block Auction

WT Docket No. 97-82 Ex Parte

Dear Ms. Salas:

The attached documents represent the response from BellSouth Cellular Corporation ("BSCC") to the exparte filed by Northcoast Communications on July 12, 2000, in the above-referenced docket.

If there are any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Ben G. Almond

Vice President-Federal Regulatory

Ben G. almond

Attachments

Kathleen Ham cc:

> No. of Copies rec'd ListABCDF

BellSouth Cellular Corporation WT Docket No. 97-82 July 17, 2000

In Northcoast's ex parte filing, it has alleged that BSCC has "warehoused" PCS licenses granted to it by the FCC. This is untrue. Northcoast has also alleged that licensees have been slow to convert analog channels to digital, apparently in an effort by those licensees to create the fiction that there is a shortage of spectrum.

First of all, with regard to the "warehousing" allegation, as BSCC showed in its 5-year "benchmark" filings on June 30, 2000, it has satisfied all of the construction requirements for provision of service to the public in connection with the two MTA licenses granted it in 1995 for provision of broadband Personal Communications Systems in the Knoxville, TN, MTA and the Charlotte-Greensboro-Greenville-Raleigh, MTA. Copies of these June 30 filings are attached hereto.

Second, of the 39 additional BTA PCS licenses granted BSCC in April 1997, BSCC is currently providing commercial service in 32 of the markets. Commercial service will be instituted in 5 additional BTAs by year-end. BSCC is evaluating its business plans for the remaining 2 BTAs; it is anticipated that commercial service will be offered in those BTAs well in advance of the 5-year build-out requirement of April 2002.

Thus, of the 41 PCS licenses granted to BSCC, by year-end 2000 it will have commercial service in 39 of the licensed MTAs/BTAs, representing 95% of the licensed markets, well in advance of the required build-out dates. This can hardly be deemed to constitute "warehousing" as alleged by Northcoast.

Insofar as Northcoast alleges that licensees have been slow to convert to digital, BSCC cannot speak for other carriers, but, with respect to BSCC, nothing could be further from the truth. Company-wide, approximately 50% of BSCC's in-service channels are digital. Currently, slightly in excess of 70% of the traffic on BSCC's system is digital. Given the efficiencies of digital versus analog service, the channel/traffic ratio shows, if anything, a disproportionate digital utilization and refutes the allegation by Northcoast.

FCC 601 Main Form

FCC Application for Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Radio Service Authorization

Approved by OMB 3060 - 0798 See instructions for public burden estimate

Submitted 06/30/2000 at 05:20PM

File Number: **0000180501**

1) Radio Service Code: CW	1a) Existing Radio Service Code:
2) Application Purpose: Required Notification	
3a) If this request is for a <u>Developmental License</u> , <u>Demonstration License</u> , or a <u>Special Temporary Authorization (STA)</u> , enter the cod and attach the required exhibit as described in the instructions. Otherwise enter N (Not Applicable).	(<u>)D M S N</u> /A
3b) If this request is for Special Temporary Authority due to an emergency situation, enter 'Y'; otherwise enter 'N'. Refer to Rule 1.915 for an explanation of situations considered to be an emergency.	()Yes No
4) If this request is for an Amendment or Withdrawal, enter the file number of the pending application currently on file with the FCC.	File Number:
5) If this request is for a Modification, Renewal Only, Renewal/Modification, Cancellation of License, Consolidate Call Signs, Duplicate License, or Administrative Update, enter the call sign of the existing FCC license.	Call Sign:
6) If this request is for a New, Amendment, Renewal Only, or Renewal/Modification, enter the requested authorization expiration date (this item is optional).	
7) Is this request "major" as defined in Section 1.929 of the Commission's Rules when read in conjunction with the applicable radio service rules found in Parts 22 and 90 of the Commission's Rules? (NOTE: This question only applies to certain site-specific applications. See the instructions for applicability and full text of Section 1.929)	()Yes No
8a) Does this filing request a Waiver of the Commission's Rules? If 'Yes', attach an exhibit providing the rule numbers and expanding circumstances.	() <u>Y</u> es <u>N</u> o
8b) If a feeable waiver request is attached, multiply the number of stations (call signs) times the number of rule sections and enter the result.	
8c) Are the frequencies or parameters requested in this filing covered by grandfathered privileges, previously approved by waiver, functionally integrated with an existing station?	()Yes No
9) Are attachments being filed with this application?	()Yes No

Applicant Information

10a) Taxpayer Identification Number: L00000960	10b) SGIN: 000	10c) FCC Registration	Number (FRN):
11) Licensee is a(n):			
12) First Name (if individual):	MI:	Last Name:	Suffix:
13) Entity Name (if other than individual): BellSouth Personal Comm	nunications Inc.		
14) Name of Real Party in Interest of Applicant:			
15) Taxpayer Identification Number:			
16) Attention To:			
[17] P.O. Box: And/Or [18] Street Address: 1100 P	eachtree Street, N.E., S	Suite 809	
19) City: ATLANTA [20) State: (GA	21) Zip: 30309-4599	
22) Telephone Number:		23) FAX:	
24) E-Mail Address:			

Contact Information (If different than applicant)

25) First Name:	MI	Last Name:	Suffix:
26) Entity Name:			
27) P.O. Box:	And/Or	28) Street Address:	
29) City: 30) State:		31) Zip:	
32) Telephone Number:			33) FAX:
34) E-Mail Address:			

Regulatory Status

35) This filing is for authorization to provide or use the following type(s) of radio service offering (enter all that apply):	() Common Carrier () Non-Common Carrier () Private, internal communications () Broadcast Services () Band Manager
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Type of Radio Service

36) This filing is for authorization to provide the following type(s) of radio service (enter all that apply):	() Fixed () Mobile () Radiolocation () Satellite (sound) () Broadcast Services
37) Interconnected Service? ()Yes No	

Fee Status

38) Is the Applicant exempt from FCC application fees?	(N)Yes No
39) Is the Applicant exempt from FCC regulatory fees?	(N)Yes No

Alien Ownership Questions (If any answer is Yes, attach exhibit explaning circumstances.)

40) Is the applicant a foreign government or the representative of any foreign government?	()Yes No
41) Is the applicant an alien or the representative of an alien?	()Yes No
42) Is the applicant a corporation organized under the laws of any foreign government?	()Yes No
43) Is the applicant a corporation of which more than one-fifth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens or their representatives of by a foreign government or representative thereof or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country?	No
44) Is the applicant directly or indirectly controlled by any other corporation of which more than one-fourth of the capital stock is owned of recorporated by aliens, their representatives, or by a foreign government or representative thereof, or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country?	()Yes No

Basic Qualification Questions (If any answer is Yes, attach exhibit explaning circumstances.)

45) Has the applicant or any party to this application or amendment had any FCC station authorization, license, or construction permit revoked or had any application for an initial, modification or renewal of FCC station authorization, license, construction permit denied by the Commission?	() Yes No
46) Has the applicant or any party to this application or amendment, or any party directly or indirectly controlling the applicant, ever been convicted of a felony by any state or federal court?	Yes No
of a felony by any state or federal court? 47) Has any court finally adjudged the applicant or any party directly or indirectly controlling the applicant guilty of unlawfully monopolizing or attempting unlawfully to monopolize radio communication, directly or indirectly, through control of manufacture or sale of radio apparatus, exclusive traffic arrangement, or any other means or unfair methods of competition?	() Yes <u>N</u> o
48) Is the applicant or any party directly or indirectly controlling the applicant, currently a party in any pending matter referred to in the preceding two items?	() Yes <u>N</u> o

49) Race, Ethnicity, Gender of Applicant/Licensee (Optional)

Race:	American Indian or Alaska Native:	Asian:	Black or African-American:	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: White
Ethnicity:	Hispanic or Latino:	Not Hispanic or Latino:		
Gender:	Female:	Male:		

General Certification Statements

- 1) The applicant waives any claim to the use of any particular frequency or of the electromagnetic spectrum as against the regulatory power of th United States because of the previous use of the same, whether by license or otherwise, and requests an authorization in accordance with this
- 2) The applicant certifies that grant of this application would not cause the applicant to be in violation of any pertinent cross-ownership,
- *If the applicant has sought a waiver of any such rule in connection with this application, it may make this certification subject to the outcome o the waiver request.
- 3) The applicant certifies that all statements made in this application and in the exhibits, attachments, or documents incorporated by reference are material, are part of this application, and are true, complete, correct, and made in good faith
- 4) The applicant certifies that neither the applicant nor any other party to the application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 862, because of a conviction for possession or distribution of a controlled substanc This certification does not apply to applications filed in services exempted under Section 1.2002(c) of the rules, 47 CFR § 1.2002(c). See Section 1.2002(b) of the rules, 47 CFR § 1.2002(b) for the definition of 'party to the application' as used in this certification.
- 5) The applicant certifies that it either (1) has current Form 602 on file with the Commission, (2) is filing an update Form 602 simultaneously with this application, or (3) is not required to file Form 602 under the Commission's Rules.

Signature

50) Typed or Printed Name of Party Authorized to Sign					
First Name: C. Claiborne	MI	Last Name: Barksdale	Suffix: Esq		
51) Title: Assistant Secretary					
Signature: C. Claiborne Barksdale Esq			52) Date: 06/30/00		
Failure To Sign This Application May Result In Dismissal Of The Application And Forfeiture Of Any Fees Paid					
	REVOCATION	OF ANY STATION LICENSE OR C	NISHABLE BY FINE AND/OR IMPRISONMENT CONSTRUCTION PERMIT (U.S. Code, Title 47, §		

FCC 601 Schedule K		Approved by OMB 3060 - 0798 See instructions for public burden estimate
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Purpose

The purpose of this submission: 1 (See Sections 1,2,3, & 5 below)

1) Satisfaction of Buildout/Coverage Requirements (Market based services only)

- 1st buildout/coverage requirements for the referenced system have been met
- 2nd buildout/coverage requirements for the referenced system have been met
- 3rd buildout/coverage requirements for the referenced system have been met
- 4th buildout/coverage requirements for the referenced system have been met.

2) Satisfaction of Construction Requirements (Site-licensed services only)

S Construction requirements for the referenced system have been met. (List, as applicable, call signs, locations, frequencies, etc., in Section 2)

3) Request for Regular Authorization for Facilities Operating under Development **Authority** (Paging services only)

D Notification to request regular authorization for facilities previously operating under developmental authority. (List, as applicable, call signs, locations, frequencies, etc., in Section 2)

4) Extended Implementation (Slow Growth) (Land Mobile services only)

G Notification of compliance with yearly station construction commitments for licensees with approved extended implementation plans. (List call signs in 2a)

H Final notification that construction requirements have been met for the referenced system with approved extension impletementation plan. (List, as applicable, call signs, lications, frequencies, etc., in Section 2)

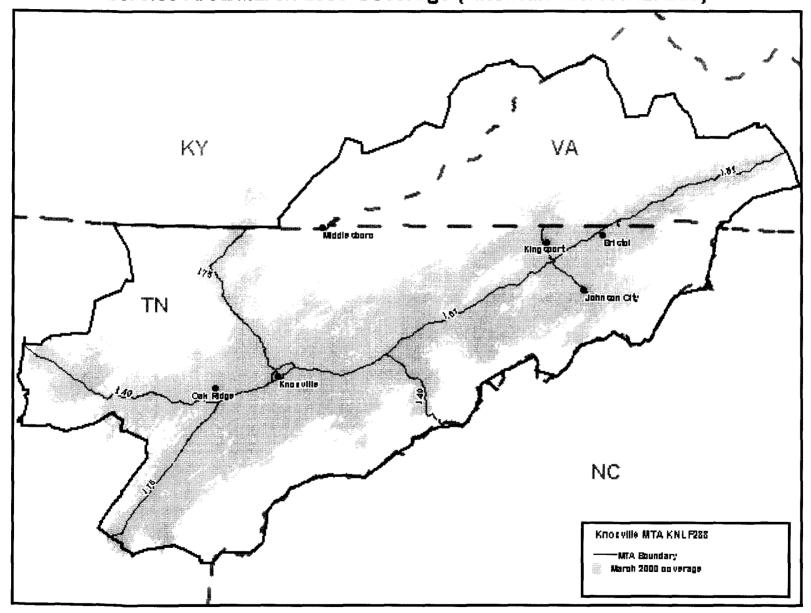
5) Call Signs/Locations/Frequencies

5a) Call Sig	5b) Location Number	5c) Path Number (Microwave only)	5d) Center or Lower Frequency (MHz)	5e) Upper Frequency (MHz)	5f) Number of Operational Mobiles (see instructions)
KNLF288					

Attachment List

Attachment Type	Date	Description	Contents
Other	06/28/00	Exhibit II - Map	17573951.0.pdf
Other	06/30/00	Exhibit I - Notification of Satisfaction of Five-Year Constr	17574580.0.pdf

BellSouth Personal Communications, Inc.
Service Area/March 2000 Coverage (Knoxville MTA KNLF288)



NOTIFICATION OF SATISFACTION OF FIVE-YEAR CONSTRUCTION BENCHMARK

BellSouth Personal Communications Services, Inc. ("Notifier"), hereby notifies the Commission of the satisfaction of the five-year construction benchmark to its existing broadband Personal Communications Services system on the Block B frequencies in the Knoxville, TN MTA, Market No. M044B, Station KNLF288. Pursuant to Section 24.203 of the Commission's rules, licensees must demonstrate that they serve the market with a signal level sufficient to provide adequate service to at least one-third of the population in their licensed area within five years of being licensed.

Specifically, Notifier has established coverage to serve 15,282 square miles and 59.9% of the United States population in this market based on the 1990 census. Notifier submits the attached map of the Knoxville, TN MTA indicating the areas in which it provides reliable service. In demonstrating compliance with construction and coverage requirements, Notifier has taken into account the technology employed and other relevant factors, to determine a minimum field strength of -91dBm for reliable service in the PCS system. The area of coverage was calculated using the Mobile System International PlaNet Engineering Software, Version 2.8, which implements the COST-231 propagation model defined in the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) specifications.

Notifier will provide any further information upon request.

¹ See Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Establish New Personal Communications Service Second Report and Order, 8 F.C.C.R. 770, para. 177, n.130 (1993).

FCC 601 Main Form

FCC Application for Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Radio Service Authorization

Approved by OMB 3060 - 0798 See instructions for public burden estimate

Submitted 06/30/2000 at 05:18PM

File Number: **0000180498**

	1a) Existing Radio Service Code:
2) Application Purpose: Required Notification	
3a) If this request is for a Developmental License, Demonstration License, or a Special Temporary Authorization (STA), enter the code and attach the required exhibit as described in the instructions. Otherwise enter N (Not Applicable).	()D <u>M S N</u> /A
3b) If this request is for Special Temporary Authority due to an emergency situation, enter 'Y'; otherwise enter 'N' Refer to Rule 1.915 for an explanation of situations considered to be an emergency.	()Yes No
4) If this request is for an Amendment or Withdrawal, enter the file number of the pending application currently on file with the FCC.	File Number:
5) If this request is for a Modification, Renewal Only, Renewal/Modification, Cancellation of License, Consolidate Call Signs, Duplicate License, or Administrative Update, enter the call sign of the existing FCC license.	Call Sign:
6) If this request is for a New, Amendment, Renewal Only, or Renewal/Modification, enter the requested authorization expiration date (this item is optional).	
7) Is this request "major" as defined in Section 1.929 of the Commission's Rules when read in conjunction with the applicable radio service rules found in Parts 22 and 90 of the Commission's Rules? (NOTE: This question only applies to certain site-specific applications. See the instructions for applicability and full text of Section 1.929)	() <u>Y</u> es <u>N</u> o
8a) Does this filing request a Waiver of the Commission's Rules? If 'Yes', attach an exhibit providing the rule numbers and expanding circumstances.	()Yes No
8b) If a feeable waiver request is attached, multiply the number of stations (call signs) times the number of rule sections and enter the result.	
8c) Are the frequencies or parameters requested in this filing covered by grandfathered privileges, previously approved by waiver, functionally integrated with an existing station?	(<u>)Y</u> es <u>N</u> o
9) Are attachments being filed with this application?	()Yes No

Applicant Information

[10a) Taxpayer Identification Number: L00000368	[10b) SGIN	000	10c) FCC Registration No	umber (FRN):
[11) Licensee is a(n):				
12) First Name (if individual):		MI:	Last Name:	Suffix:
[13] Entity Name (if other than individual): BellSouth	Carolinas PCS, L.L.C.			
14) Name of Real Party in Interest of Applicant:				
15) Taxpayer Identification Number:				
16) Attention To:				
[17] P.O. Box: And/Or [18] Street A	Address: 1100 Peachtree Stre	et, N.E., S	uite 809	
19) City: ATLANTA	20) State: GA		21) Zip: 30309-4599	
22) Telephone Number:			23) FAX:	
24) E-Mail Address:				

Contact Information (If different than applicant)

25) First Name:	MI:	Last Name:	Suffix:
26) Entity Name:			
27) P.O. Box:	And/Or	28) Street Address:	
29) City:	30) State:	31) Zip:	
32) Telephone Number:			33) FAX:
34) E-Mail Address:			

Regulatory Status

	() Common Carrier () Non-Common Carrier () Private, internal communications () Broadcast Services () Band Manager
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Type of Radio Service

36) This filing is for authorization to provide the following type(s) of radio service (enter all that apply):	() Fixed () Mobile () Radiolocation () Satellite (sound) () Broadcast Services
37) Interconnected Service? ()Yes No	

Fee Status

38) Is the Applicant exempt from FCC application fees?	(N)Yes No
39) Is the Applicant exempt from FCC regulatory fees?	(N)Yes No

Alien Ownership Questions (If any answer is Yes, attach exhibit explaning circumstances.)

40) Is the applicant a foreign government or the representative of any foreign government?	()Yes <u>N</u> o
41) Is the applicant an alien or the representative of an alien?	()Yes No
42) Is the applicant a corporation organized under the laws of any foreign government?	()Yes No
43) Is the applicant a corporation of which more than one-fifth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens or their representatives o by a foreign government or representative thereof or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country?	()Yes No
44) Is the applicant directly or indirectly controlled by any other corporation of which more than one-fourth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens, their representatives, or by a foreign government or representative thereof, or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country?	() <u>Y</u> es <u>N</u> o

Basic Qualification Questions (If any answer is Yes, attach exhibit explaning circumstances.)

45) Has the applicant or any party to this application or amendment had any FCC station authorization, license, or construction permit revoked or had any application for an initial, modification or renewal of FCC station authorization, license, construction permit denied by the Commission?	() Yes <u>N</u> o
46) Has the applicant or any party to this application or amendment, or any party directly or indirectly controlling the applicant, ever been convict of a felony by any state or federal court?	Yes No
47) Has any court finally adjudged the applicant or any party directly or indirectly controlling the applicant guilty of unlawfully monopolizing or attempting unlawfully to monopolize radio communication, directly or indirectly, through control of manufacture or sale of radio apparatus, exclusive traffic arrangement, or any other means or unfair methods of competition?	Yes
48) Is the applicant or any party directly or indirectly controlling the applicant, currently a party in any pending matter referred to in the preceding two items?	() Yes No

49) Race, Ethnicity, Gender of Applicant/Licensee (Optional)

Race:	American Indian or Alaska Native:	Asian:	Black or African-American:	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: White
Ethnicity:	Hispanic or Latino:	Not Hispanic or Latino:		
Gender:	Female:	Male:		

General Certification Statements

- 1) The applicant waives any claim to the use of any particular frequency or of the electromagnetic spectrum as against the regulatory power of the United States because of the previous use of the same, whether by license or otherwise, and requests an authorization in accordance with this application.
- 2) The applicant certifies that grant of this application would not cause the applicant to be in violation of any pertinent cross-ownership.
- attribution, or spectrum cap rule.*
 *If the applicant has sought a waiver of any such rule in connection with this application, it may make this certification subject to the outcome o
- 3) The applicant certifies that all statements made in this application and in the exhibits, attachments, or documents incorporated by reference are material, are part of this application, and are true, complete, correct, and made in good faith.
- 4) The applicant certifies that neither the applicant nor any other party to the application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 862, because of a conviction for possession or distribution of a controlled substance This certification does not apply to applications filed in services exempted under Section 1.2002(c) of the rules, 47 CFR § 1.2002(c). See Section 1.2002(b) of the rules, 47 CFR § 1.2002(b) for the definition of 'party to the application' as used in this certification.
- 5) The applicant certifies that it either (1) has current Form 602 on file with the Commission, (2) is filing an update Form 602 simultaneously with this application, or (3) is not required to file Form 602 under the Commission's Rules.

Signature

50) Typed or Printed Name of Party Authorized to Sign						
First Name: C. Claiborne	MI:	Last Name: Barksdale	Suffix: Esq			
51) Title: Assistant Secretary						
Signature: C. Claiborne Barksdale Esq [52] Date: 06/30/00						
Failure To Sign This Application May Resu	lt In Dismissal Of	The Application And Forfeiture Of A	ny Fees Paid			
	R REVOCATION	OF ANY STATION LICENSE OR C	NISHABLE BY FINE AND/OR IMPRISONMENT ONSTRUCTION PERMIT (U.S. Code, Title 47, §			

FCC 601 Schedule K		Approved by OMB 3060 - 0798 See instructions for public burden estimate
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Purpose

The purpose of this submission: 1 (See Sections 1,2,3, & 5 below)

1) Satisfaction of Buildout/Coverage Requirements (Market based services only)

- 1st buildout/coverage requirements for the referenced system have been met
- 2nd buildout/coverage requirements for the referenced system have been met.
- 3rd buildout/coverage requirements for the referenced system have been met 4th buildout/coverage requirements for the referenced system have been met.
- 2) Satisfaction of Construction Requirements (Site-licensed services only)

S Construction requirements for the referenced system have been met. (List, as applicable, call signs, locations, frequencies, etc., in Section 2)

3) Request for Regular Authorization for Facilities Operating under Development **Authority** (Paging services only)

D Notification to request regular authorization for facilities previously operating under developmental authority. (List, as applicable, call signs, locations, frequencies, etc., in Section 2)

4) Extended Implementation (Slow Growth) (Land Mobile services only)

G Notification of compliance with yearly station construction commitments for licensees with approved extended implementation plans. (List call signs in 2a)

H Final notification that construction requirements have been met for the referenced system with approved extension impletementation plan. (List, as applicable, call signs, lications, frequencies, etc., in Section 2)

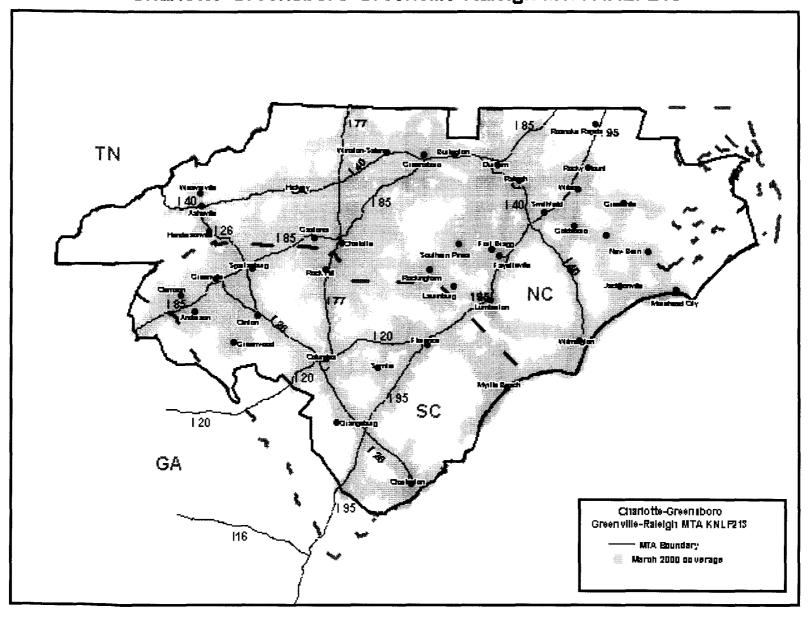
5) Call Signs/Locations/Frequencies

5a) Call Sign	5b) Location Number	5c) Path Number (Microwave only)	5d) Center or Lower Frequency (MHz)	5e) Upper Frequency (MHz)	5f) Number of Operational Mobiles (see instructions)
KNLF213					

Attachment List

Attachment Type	Date	Description	Contents
Other	06/28/00	Exhibit II - Map	17573954.0.pdf
Other	06/30/00	Exhibit I - Notification of Satisfaction of Five-Year Constr	17574578.0.pdf

BellSouth Carolinas PCS, LLC Service Area/March 2000 Coverage Charlotte-Greensboro-Greenville-Raleigh MTA KNLF213



NOTIFICATION OF SATISFACTION OF FIVE-YEAR CONSTRUCTION BENCHMARK

BellSouth Carolinas PCS, LLC ("Notifier"), hereby notifies the Commission of the satisfaction of the five-year construction benchmark to its existing broadband Personal Communications Services system on the Block B frequencies in the Charlotte-Greensboro-Greenville-Raleigh, SC/NC MTA, Market No. M006B, Station KNLF213. Pursuant to Section 24.203 of the Commission's rules, licensees must demonstrate that they serve the market with a signal level sufficient to provide adequate service to at least one-third of the population in their licensed area within five years of being licensed.

Specifically, Notifier has established coverage to serve 76,399 square miles and 76.6% of the United States population in this market based on the 1990 census. Notifier submits the attached map of the Charlotte-Greensboro-Greenville-Raleigh, SC/NC MTA indicating the areas in which it provides reliable service. In demonstrating compliance with construction and coverage requirements, Notifier has taken into account the technology employed and other relevant factors, to determine a minimum field strength of -91dBm for reliable service in the PCS system. The area of coverage was calculated using the Mobile System International PlaNet Engineering Software, Version 2.8, which implements the COST-231 propagation model defined in the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) specifications.

Notifier will provide any further information upon request.

¹ See Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Establish New Personal Communications Service Second Report and Order, 8 F.C.C.R. 770, para. 177, n.130 (1993).